

with B, said ring containing one nitrogen;

Y is

(a)  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl, or H;

(b)  $\text{C(O)-C}_{1-6}$  alkyl;

(c)  $\left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{CH}_2\text{CH-CH}_2\text{-Z} \\ | \\ \text{OH} \end{array} \right]$ , wherein Z is  $\text{C}_{1-6}$  alkyl or  $\text{O-C}_{1-6}$  alkyl;

(d) aryl; or

(e) heterocycle;

B is a single bond, OH or halo;

C is -OH,  $-\text{CH}_2-$  or forms a 5-membered lactone or lactam ring with D; and

D is:

(i) -OH,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{-halo}$ ,  $-\text{CH(O)-}$ ,  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{C(O)-O-C}_{1-6}$  alkyl,  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-$ ,  $-\text{CHOH-}$ , wherein n is an integer and is 1, 2, or 3; or

(ii) forms a 5-membered lactone or lactam ring with C;

E is -H or  $-\text{CH}_3$ ; and

F is -OH,

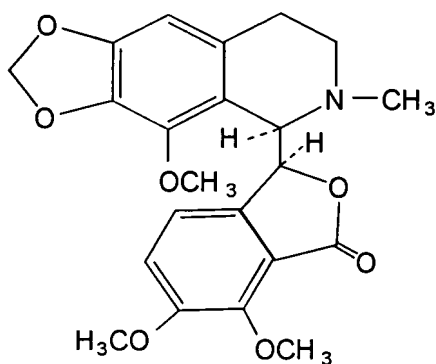
or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said

composition useful in the treatment of neoplastic diseases,

with the proviso that the formula excludes nescapine of the structure

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C2  
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and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.